

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Bill McChesney, on March 12, 2009 at 8:00  
A.M., in Room 472 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Bill McChesney, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Rick Laible, Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)  
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)  
Sen. Ryan Zinke (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Bill Nooney (R)  
Rep. Jon C. Sesso (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Mark Bruno, OBPP  
Greg DeWitt, Legislative Branch  
Shawn Graham, OBPP  
Mitzi Grover, Committee Secretary  
Matt Stayner, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Subjects Heard: HB 645: Governor's Office, Department of Administration, Department of Commerce, Department of Military Affairs, Department of Labor & Industry

Executive Action: None

00:00:07 Chairman McChesney

**Governor's Office**

**Informational Testimony:**

00:03:53 Matt Stayner, Legislative Fiscal Division, (LFD)  
[EXHIBIT\(jgh55a01\)](#)

00:04:56 Sen. Zinke  
00:05:06 Mr. Stayner  
00:05:16 Sen. Laible  
00:05:40 Mr. Stayner

**Department of Administration**

**Informational Testimony:**

00:06:00 Greg DeWitt, Legislative Fiscal Division LFD  
00:07:37 Mark Bruno, Office of Budget and Program Planning  
(OBPP)

**Public Comment:**

00:08:28 David Senn, Director, Teacher Retirement Division  
00:10:20 Tom Bilodeau, MEA-MFT

**Discussion:**

00:12:41 Chairman McChesney  
00:13:06 Mr. Senn  
00:13:24 Chairman McChesney  
00:13:31 Mr. Senn  
00:14:07 Sen. Laible  
00:14:34 Mr. Senn  
00:14:53 Sen. Laible  
00:15:07 Mr. Senn  
00:15:27 Sen. Laible  
00:16:07 Mr. Senn  
00:16:43 Sen. Hansen  
00:17:03 Mr. Senn  
00:17:38 Sen. Zinke  
00:18:34 Mr. Senn  
00:19:21 Chairman McChesney

**Department of Commerce**

00:19:58 Mr. Stayner

00:23:41 Sen. Zinke  
00:24:06 Mr. Stayner  
00:24:43 Sen. Zinke  
00:24:58 Chairman McChesney

**Informational Testimony:**

00:25:29 Andy Poole, Deputy Director, Department of Commerce  
(DOC)  
00:38:42 Tony Preite, Director, DOC  
00:43:22 Chairman McChesney

**Public Comment:**

00:43:59 Paul Tuss, Executive Director, Bear Paw Development  
Corporation of Northern Montana

**EXHIBIT(jgh55a02)**

00:47:14 Rep. Bob Bergren, HD 33, Havre, Montana  
00:48:42 Mike Anderson, Hill County Commissioner  
00:49:56 Rep. Betsy Hands, HD 99, Missoula, Montana  
00:59:00 Michael O'Neil, State Director, Montana Home Choice  
Coalition  
01:06:34 Chairman McChesney  
01:06:48 Ellen Simpson, Montana Wood Products Association

**Questions from Committee and Responses:**

01:11:44 Chairman McChesney  
01:12:43 Sen. Zinke  
01:13:29 Rep. Hands  
01:14:46 Sen. Zinke  
01:15:07 Sen. Laible  
01:16:07 Mr. Poole  
01:16:44 Sen. Laible  
01:17:03 Mr. Poole  
01:17:24 Sen. Laible  
01:17:29 Bruce Brensdal, Administrator, Housing Division, DOC  
01:18:13 Sen. Laible  
01:18:44 Mr. Brensdal  
01:19:13 Sen. Laible  
01:19:20 Chairman McChesney  
01:20:06 Mr. Brensdal  
01:20:37 Chairman McChesney  
01:20:48 Mr. Brensdal  
01:21:08 Chairman McChesney  
01:21:19 Sen. Zinke  
01:21:27 Rep. McNutt

01:22:05 Rep. Hands  
01:22:28 Chairman McChesney  
01:22:40 Rep. Hands  
01:23:14 Chairman McChesney  
01:23:35 Patrick Heffernan, Director, Montana Working Forests  
01:24:55 Chairman McChesney  
01:25:08 Tim Baker, Executive Director, Montana Wilderness  
Association

**EXHIBIT(jgh55a03)**

01:27:02 Sen. Zinke  
01:27:33 Ms. Simpson  
01:28:27 Sen. Zinke  
01:28:43 Ms. Simpson  
01:29:53 Sen. Zinke  
01:30:15 Chairman McChesney  
01:31:01 Ms. Simpson  
01:32:00 Chairman McChesney  
01:32:12 Ms. Simpson  
01:33:02 Sen. Laible  
01:34:02 Ms. Simpson  
01:35:40 Sen. Laible

**Public Comment:**

01:36:04 Chere Jiusto, Main Street Program, Historic  
Preservation

**EXHIBIT(jgh55a04)**

**Questions from Committee and Responses:**

01:42:53 Sen. Laible  
01:44:13 Mr. Stayner  
01:44:21 Sen. Laible  
01:44:55 Mr. Stayner  
01:46:13 Sen. Laible  
01:47:07 Ms. Jiusto  
01:48:53 Chairman McChesney

01:49:17 Recess  
02:01:19 Reconvene

**Public Comment:**

02:01:38 Linda Gryczan, Grow Montana, National Center  
for Appropriate Technology (NCAT)

**EXHIBIT(jgh55a05)**

02:09:34 Chairman McChesney

02:10:11 Jeff Feiss, General Manager, Montana Telecommunications  
Association  
02:15:59 Marty Tuttle, Chief Legal Counsel, DOC  
02:22:27 Bonnie Lorang, Montana Independent Telecommunications  
Systems

**EXHIBIT(jgh55a06)**

02:25:54 David Gibson, Director, Qwest Communications

**Questions from Committee and Responses:**

02:29:26 Chairman McChesney  
02:29:35 Sen. Hansen  
02:30:00 Mr. Tuttle  
02:33:40 Sen. Laible  
02:35:06 Mr. Feiss  
02:37:51 Sen. Laible  
02:38:11 Mr. Feiss  
02:38:17 Sen. Laible  
02:39:04 Mr. Tuttle  
02:42:08 Sen. Laible  
02:42:56 Mr. Tuttle  
02:44:08 Sen. Laible  
02:44:54 Mr. Tuttle  
02:46:40 Rep. Duane Ankney, HD 43, Colstrip, Montana  
02:49:04 Sen. Laible  
02:49:22 Rep. Ankney  
02:49:39 Sen. Hansen  
02:49:57 Rep. Ankney  
02:50:10 Sen. Laible left.  
02:50:15 Sen. Zinke  
02:50:32 Rep. Ankney  
02:50:40 Chairman McChesney  
02:50:49 Lorrie Merrill, Director, Big Sandy Activities  
02:54:33 Chairman McChesney  
02:54:48 Sen. Laible returned.  
02:54:55 Sen. Zinke  
02:55:07 Mr. Poole  
02:55:49 Chairman McChesney  
02:55:55 Mr. Poole  
02:56:21 Sen. Zinke  
02:56:34 Mr. Poole  
02:56:56 Chairman McChesney  
02:57:03 Sen. Laible  
02:57:31 Mr. Tuttle  
02:57:36 Sen. Laible  
02:57:56 Mr. Tuttle  
02:58:20 Chairman McChesney

**Department of Military Affairs**

**Informational Testimony:**

02:58:49 Brigadier General Putnam, Assistant Adjutant General,  
Montana National Guard

02:59:49 Rep. Furey, HD 91, Milltown, Montana

**EXHIBIT(jgh55a07)**

03:01:55 Sen. Zinke

03:02:20 General Putnam

03:02:38 Sen. Laible

03:03:10 Rep. Furey

03:04:57 Sen. Laible

03:05:30 Rep. Furey

**Department of Labor and Industry**

03:06:35 Mr. Stayner

03:11:30 Sen. Zinke

03:11:56 Mr. Stayner

03:12:26 Sen. Zinke

**Informational Testimony:**

03:12:38 Keith Kelly, Commissioner, Montana Department of Labor  
and Industry

**EXHIBIT(jgh55a08)**

03:35:05 Sen. Laible

03:35:33 Mr. Kelly

03:35:54 Sen. Laible

03:36:12 Mr. Kelly

03:37:51 Mr. Stayner

03:38:15 Sen. Laible

03:38:49 Mr. Kelly

03:40:27 Sen. Laible

03:41:18 Mr. Kelly

03:43:22 Sen. Laible

03:44:37 Mr. Kelly

03:46:51 Sen. Zinke

03:47:42 Mr. Kelly

03:48:07 Sen. Zinke

03:48:28 Mr. Kelly

03:49:16 Chairman McChesney

03:49:26 Sen. Laible

03:50:17 Chairman McChesney

03:50:37 Sen. Laible

03:51:24 Mr. Stayner

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03:53:20 Sen. Laible  
03:53:34 Mr. Stayner  
03:54:30 Sen. Laible  
03:54:38 Mr. Stayner  
03:54:42 Sen. Laible  
03:55:06 Mr. Stayner  
03:55:17 Sen. Laible  
03:56:10 Mr. Stayner  
03:56:36 Sen. Zinke  
03:57:13 Rep. McNutt left.  
03:57:43 Chairman McChesney

**ADJOURNMENT**

03:58:01 Adjournment: 12:10 P.M.

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Mitzi Grover, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT ([jgh55aad.pdf](#))**